

Fiscal Services Division
Legislative Services Agency
Fiscal Note

HF 2523 – Deer Depredation Program (LSB 5320 HV)

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Fiscal Note Version – New

Description

House File 2523 makes changes to the Deer Depredation Program by:

- Requires participants in the existing Farm Advisory Committee to provide information to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) related to crop and tree damage caused by deer, wild turkey, and other predators.
- Creates a Deer Study Advisory Committee to study the best way to maintain a sustainable, socially acceptable deer population in Iowa while maximizing and balancing the economic value of deer hunting to Iowa's economy with the needs of the agricultural industry and public safety concerns.
- Changes the Deer Depredation Program and adds the Program to the Code of Iowa. Permits a landowner or family member to receive a free depredation permit for each deer hunting season. The landowner or family member must pay the \$1.00 writing fee and the \$1.00 deer herd population management fee. Requires the number of harvested deer to be reported to the DNR. Also requires the DNR to provide educational materials, conduct outreach programs, and create a Master Hunter Program.

Assumptions

- The DNR estimates that 350 landowners will receive an average of seven free deer depredation permits for a total of 2,450 permits. Under current law, each permit would generate a \$10.00 fee.
- The DNR estimates each of the 20 wildlife units will need additional computer equipment with an average cost of \$3,500 each for FY 2009. The DNR estimates expenditures of \$2,000 for FY 2010 and subsequent years for administration and enforcement expenses at each of the 20 wildlife units.
- The DNR estimates the cost to upgrade the Electronic Licensing System for Iowa (ELSI) at \$50,000 for FY 2009.

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impact of HF 2523 for FY 2009 is a net reduction of \$145,000 to the Fish and Game Trust Fund. For FY 2010 and subsequent years, the fiscal impact is a net reduction of \$65,000 to the Fish and Game Trust Fund.

Sources

Department of Natural Resources

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

March 19, 2008

The fiscal note and correctional impact statement for this bill was prepared pursuant to Joint Rule 17 and pursuant to Section 2.56, Code of Iowa. Data used in developing this fiscal note and correctional impact statement are available from the Fiscal Services Division, Legislative Services Agency to members of the Legislature upon request.
